

In the Specification (clean copy as amended)

Please replace the first paragraph on page 1 with the following:

This application is a continuation of PCT/US99/19030, which is a continuation-in-part of Serial No. 09/293,427, filed April 16, 1999, entitled "Method and Constructs for Inhibiting Protein Expression in Bacteria," which is a continuation-in-part of Serial No. 08/769,945, filed December 19, 1996, entitled "Method and Constructs for Inhibiting Protein Expression in Bacteria," now U.S. Patent No. 5,981,280, which is a continuation-in-part of Serial No. 08/203,806, filed March 1, 1994, entitled "Nucleic Acids Sequence Stress-Induced Proteins and Uses Thereof," now U.S. Patent No. 5,714,575, which corresponds to parent application Serial No. 07/852,013, filed March 9, 1992, now abandoned. This application also claims the priority of provisional application Serial No. 60/096,938, filed August 20, 1998, entitled "The 5' Untranslated Region of the Cold-Shock *cspA* Gene Regulates Translation Efficiency in Addition to mRNA Stability," and U.S. provisional application Serial No. 60/143,380, entitled "Translational Enhancement by an element Downstream of the Initiation Codon in *Escherichia coli*."